

Volker & JinHyeog GLISSMANN

MALAWI

Location: Blantyre

Mission: Theological Education

Volker is assisting one of PCI's long-term partners in Malawi: TEEM (Theological Education by Extension in Malawi).

CHANGE OF PLAN: STAYING PUT

In our last bulletin before the summer break, we shared about our plans to move. Volker has been invited by the Theological Education by Extension College (TEEC) in Southern Africa to join them as a programme developer. The College is planning a complete revision of their Bachelor in Theology programme to cater better for its student body. The College is located in South Africa, so we had planned to move from TEE Malawi to TEE College in South Africa. With Volker's experience in Malawi, his expertise with TEE and curriculum development and the children's stages in school— it seemed right to move now.

Unfortunately, the visa application for South Africa hit an obstacle. Initially, we were told to apply for a volunteer visa, but then it turned out that we needed to apply for a work visa. Work visas are quite difficult to obtain, but under certain circumstances some of the regulations can be waived. The College applied for a waiver, but the process takes between 6 to 12 months.

Following a discussion with all parties, and because of the children's schooling, the decision was made to stay in Malawi until the visa is approved. In the meantime, Volker will continue to assist TEEM and explore the option to assist TEEC from Malawi.



Through the goodness of God, our work permit for Malawi was extended a few weeks ago until June 2019, even though we had only asked for six weeks. A friend of ours made a point when she said, "I think that God does not think that you are finished with your work here in Malawi."

Recently Volker wrote two biblical grass-roots courses, but they have not yet been published. We did run some test groups, and we need to make some changes to adjust the course for rural Malawi and write the facilitator guide. Volker had agreed to finish the courses even though we were moving to South Africa. So, it seems that God did not think that we are finished here. The long-term plan is still to move to South Africa, but for the next year or two we will stay in Malawi so that our oldest daughter can finish her schooling.

We are very grateful for your prayers that lift us to our Heavenly Father.

Prayer Points

- Praise the Lord for the visa for Malawi, without his provision, it would have been extremely hard.
- Continue to pray for the new TEEM Director as he settles in his new role.
- Pray for the visa for South Africa to be issued.